

*Handwritten notes:*  
2001  
2002

TAG CD-ROM

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project was to produce a CD-ROM for the Technology Applications Group. The CD was being developed to allow interested people, organizations, or companies to view the technologies available to them that were developed by NASA research. The CD's main audience however, is any small business. The CD will give the small business an opportunity to see what technologies are available in an inexpensive manner. Most companies probably have a CD-ROM drive on their computers but may not have access to the internet. By using only the internet to inform on the technologies, NASA was not considering a large segment of the population. The CD-ROM can now cover that group of the population.

## INTRODUCTION

One of the main focuses of the Technology Applications Group (TAG) is to transfer technology from NASA to industry. To aid in the transfer of technology, TAG decided to inform the public of the available technologies through two means. The first is through the internet and the second is by way of CD-ROM. Although a large portion of the population does have access to the internet, many individuals and small companies cannot afford to use it. On the other hand, many people and companies have access to a CD-ROM drive or are able to purchase one at an affordable price. It is these people who we want the CD-ROM to reach.

## SUMMARY

### APPROACH

I arrived in the TAG office two weeks early to develop a plan and design for our CD-ROM. We had initially intended on killing two birds with one stone by embedding the Netscape or MOSAIC browser into the CD-ROM along with a translator. The translator was to translate our data into HTML. So, the information which we obtained and the screens which we made would have been viewable not only on the CD-ROM, but also on the world wide web. We were unable to get Netscape to work with us, however after several weeks of working with MOSAIC, they decided to work with us. Unfortunately, by the time MOSAIC reached their decision, time had come for us to get started one way or another and we started without MOSAIC. Next year however, the next group will be able to embed the MOSAIC browser into their CD. This year, our work can only be viewed via CD-ROM.

### EQUIPMENT

My group was chosen for this program as a result of our knowledge of HTML. We however, could not apply what we already knew and had to start from scratch. We had to learn how to use new software and hardware. The hardware included: Macintosh computers, CD-ROM writer, and scanner. Our software included: MicroSoft Word, FoxPro, Adobe Premiere, Adobe Illustrator, ColorIt, Impact, PageMaker, and Photoshop.

## RESULTS

We have developed a CD-ROM which will be completed within the next two weeks. I believe that it was a good first attempt. Teams that work on this project on the future will hopefully be able to take this much further than we have taken it. Hopefully, they will already have more knowledge on the use of the hardware and software and will not have to spend as much time learning how to use the software before getting started.

Also, the next team will probably have a better understanding of what is to be developed because they have something on which they can already go on, our CD.